

PATENT

**Attorney Docket No.:2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Buysse et al. Examiner: Roy D. Gibson  
Serial No.: 10/736,180 Group: Art Unit 3739  
Filed: December 15, 2003 Dated: May 3, 2005  
For: BIPOLAR ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT  
FOR SEALING VESSELS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that copies of the references listed on pages 1 and 2 are not required since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 pursuant to 51 C.F.R. 1.98. Copies of foreign references and publications listed on page 3 of form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

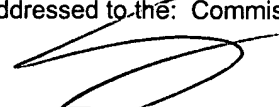
05/06/2005 GWORDDF1 00000004 210550 10736180

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 3, 2005

Dated: May 3, 2005

  
Edward G. Meagher

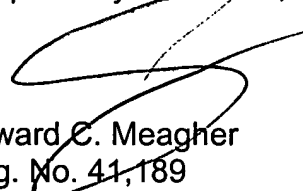
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).
  - ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
  - ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☒ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Meagher  
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Attorney for Applicant(s)

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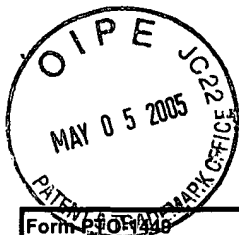
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ECM/gm



without references

Sheet

1 of

3

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)	Application Number 10/736,180
	Applicant Buysse et al.	
	Filing Date December 15, 2003	Group Art Number 3739

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	2,031,682	2/25/36	Wappler et al.			
	4,452,246	6/5/84	Bader et al.			
	4,600,007	7/15/86	Lahodny et al.			
	4,985,030	1/15/91	Melzer et al.			
	5,147,357	9/15/92	Rose et al.			
	5,443,463	8/22/95	Stern et al.			
	5,536,251	7/16/96	Evard et al.			
	5,573,424	11/12/96	Poppe			
	5,582,611	12/10/96	Tsukagoshi et al.			
	5,626,609	5/6/97	Zvenyatsky et al.			
	5,662,667	9/2/97	Knodel			
	5,716,366	02/10/98	Yates			
	5,735,848	04/07/98	Yates et al.			
	5,766,130	06/16/98	Selmonosky			
	5,797,938	08/25/98	Paraschac et al.			
	5,820,630	10/13/98	Lind			
	5,876,401	03/02/99	Schulze et al.			
	5,906,630	05/25/99	Anderhub et al.			
	5,944,718	08/31/99	Dafforn et al.			
	6,010,516	01/04/00	Hulka et al.			
	6,024,741	02/15/00	Willaimson et al.			
	6,041,679	03/28/00	Slater et al.			
	6,096,037	08/01/00	Mulier et al.			
	6,113,596	09/05/00	Hooven et al.			
	6,183,467	02/06/01	Shapeton et al.			

Examiner	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449	Docket Number (Optional) 2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)	Application Number 10/736,180
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Applicant Buysse et al.	
	Filing Date December 15, 2003	Group Art Number 3739

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,270,508	08/07/01	Klieman et al.			
	6,280,458	08/28/01	Boche et al.			
	6,283,961	09/04/01	Underwood et al.			
	6,322,561	11/27/01	Eggers et al.			
	6,398,779	06/04/02	Buysse et al.			
	D457,959	5/28/02	Tetzlaff et al.			
	D496,997	10/05/04	Dycus et al.			
	D499,181	11/30/04	Dycus et al.			

## U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	US2003/0069571A1	4/10/03	Treat et al.			
	US2003/0139742A1	7/24/03	Wampler et al.			
	US2003/0158549A1	8/21/03	David K. Swanson			
	US2003/199869A1	10/23/03	Johnson et al.			
	US2003/0236325A1	11/25/04	Tetzlaff et al.			
	US2004/0147925A1	7/29/04	Buysse et al.			
	US2004/0225288A1	11/11/04	Buysse et al.			
	US2004/0243125A1	12/2/04	Dycus et al.			
	US2004/0249371A1	12/09/04	Dycus et al.			
	US2004/0249374A1	12/9/04	Tetzlaff et al.			
	US2004/0250419A1	12/16/04	Sremcich et al.			
	US2004/0254573A1	12/16/04	Dycus et al.			
	US2005/0004568A1	1/6/05	Lawes et al.			
	US2005/0004570A1	1/6/05	Chapman et al.			
	US2005/0021025A1	01/27/05	Buysse et al.			
	US2005/0021026A1	01/27/05	Baily			
	US2005/0021027A1	01/27/05	Shields et al.			

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Form PTO-1449

2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)

Docket Number (Optional)

Application Number

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant

Buysse et al.

Filing Date

December 15, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	WO 94/08524 A	4/28/1994	PCT				
	WO 96/13218A1	9/5/1996	PCT				
	WO 99/12488 A	3/18/1999	PCT				
	WO 99/66850 A	12/29/1999	PCT				
	WO 01/17448 A	3/15/2001	PCT				
	WO 02/080795	10/17/2002	PCT				
	WO 02/080798	10/17/2002	PCT				
	WO 02/080799	10/17/2002	PCT				
	WO 2004/052221 A1	6/24/2004	PCT				
	WO 2004/082495 A1	9/30/2004	PCT				
	WO 2004/098383 A1	11/18/2004	PCT				
	EP 0624348A2	11/17/1994	EP				
	EP 1159926A2	12/5/2001	EP				
	DE19751108	5/20/1999	DE				
	DE 2415263	10/2/1975	DE				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

PCT/US01/11340	International Search Report
PCT/US01/11420	International Search Report
PCT/US02/01890	International Search Report
PCT/US02/11100	International Search Report
PCT/US04/03436	International Search Report
PCT/US04/13273	International Search Report
PCT/US04/15311	International Search Report
EP 98944778	International Search Report
EP 98958575	International Search Report
EP 04027479	International Search Report
EP 04027705	International Search Report
EP 04027314	International Search Report

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